

## HAULING TIMBER ON USSR RAILROADS

#### Hauling Characteristics

In 1947, timber hauling amounted to 7.8 percent in tons and 9.5 percent in ton-kilometers of the total freight turnover on the railroads. Of the total amount of timber hauled by the railroads, round timber amounted to 45 percent, construction timber and pit props amounted to 28 percent, sawed timber amounted to 16 percent, and railroad ties amounted to 11 percent.

Timber hauling on the USSR railroads is influenced by the geographical distribution of the timber producers, processing industries, and consumer industries.

The forest areas of the Soviet Union are distributed most irregularly. Botwithstanding the fact that nearly one third of the territory of the Soviet Union is covered with timber, slightly more than one fifth of all the timber resources is concentrated in European USSR, while the main timber reserves are located in Asiatic USSR. The deficiency of European USSR is aggravated by the fact that nearly half of the timber reserves are located in watershed areas, where only limited extraction of timber is permitted. The principal timber-supplying regions of European USSR are in the European North, the Karelo-Finnish SSR, and the Kama River Basin. In spite of the considerable timber resources of the Soviet Union, the main industrial centers are located in the timber-definient areas, where it is necessary to bring in timber and lumber by real transportation.

The geographic distribution of timber reserves, timber-processing industries, and the main industrial centers throughout the country predetermines the flow routes of timber from the east to the west and from the north to the south. The average length of haul of timber via rail during the past few decades is shown in the following table:

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While the average length of haul of timber in 1946 was 830 /sic/ kilometers, that of round timber was 580 kilometers, pit props 1,120 kilometers, lumber 957 kilometers, and railroad ties 877 kilometers.

The shorter average length of haul of timber via rail in prerevolutionary Russia was largely the result of irresponsible felling of timber in the easily accessible and densely inhabited regions. This impoverished the main forest areas of the north while the Asiatic part of the country was left untouched. This contributed greatly to the inefficient distribution of the wood-processing industry. Over 50 percent of plywood production was concentrated in the west and northwest; the largest sawmills were also located in European Russia. The consequences of this uneven distribution of the wood-processing industry in prerevolutionary Russia are evident in the hauling of timber via railroad even to the present time. Now, 80 percent of the sawmills, the paper industry (except the Sakhalin Island enterprises), 30 percention the plywood industry, and a great part of the furniture industry are located in European USSR. However, timber-processing industries are beginning to be developed in the eastern region, where the main timber reserves are located.

Inadequacies in the distribution of timber-processing industries aggravate the deficiency of the lightly wooded areas and cause excessive long-distance hauling of unprocessed timber by the railroads. The irregular distribution of the timber-processing industries leads to inefficient hauling of sawmill products, and expecially plywood and furniture, from European USSR and the Urals to the Siberian regions.

In the postwar years, changes in the location of lumbering operations and the freight flow of timber via railroad are taking place. Lumbering operations in the eastern regions of the USSR are being increased along with limited operations in the south and west, within the capabilities of the limited resources of these regions.

The pattern of timber hauling via railroad and the proportion of production and consumption of timber by the main economic regions changed substantially during World War II. Thus, for example, the amount of lumber hauled in 1940 comprised 27 percent of all timber hauled. This figure sank to 17.8 percent in 1945. The decrease in the proportion of lumber in the over-all amount of timber hauling was accompanied by an increase in the need for rolling stock. Thus, if 25.27 square meters of lumber were loaded on a flat car, only 21.22 square meters of round timber could be loaded, which is almost 15 percent less. Simultaneously with the changes in the timber-hauling pattern during World War II, there occurred considerable changes in the freight flow of timber.

At the end of the war, lumbering operations, compared with 1940, increased sharply in the remoter areas, particularly in the morth, the northwest, East Siberia, and the Far East. In addition, timber hauling in the west and the Volga areas exceeded the prewar level. In 1946, timber shipments via rail decreased 17 percent in comparison with 1940. Together with this, lumber hauling from the south rose from 7.2 percent in 1940 to 15 percent in 1946; from the west, it rose from 6.6 percent to 16.2 percent. The decrease in the length

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of haul of timber at the expense of increased extraction of timber from nearby regions of the west and south occurred during the war as a consequence of the forced felling of locall; important timber and timber from the watershed areas. Because of the deficiency of coal in the central areas of the country, there occurred intensified felling of timber for firewood, particularly in the Moscow area.

During the war years, along with the general decrease in the procurement of pit props in the north (one of the main sources for European USSR), the need for pit props in this area increased. The requirements for pit props increased substantially in West Siberia and the importing of mine timber into Kazakhotan and Central Asia also increased. In the postwar period, there came about a rapid transfer of lumbering operations to the east and northeast, which caused an increase in the length of haul of timber via rail.

#### Planning Timber Hauling

The main feature in planning timber hauling via rail is the great number of timber shippers. In addition to the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR, whose shipments of timber comprise 60 percent of the total, there are 150 other ministries and organizations engaged in their own procurement of timber and carrying out the shipping of this timber for their respective consumers. The large number of timber shippers has a great influence on the organization of timber hauling via the railroads.

Planning the hauling of pit props and the special types of lumber of all timber shippers, as well as timber procured by the Ministry of Timber Industry USSR, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Ministry of Forestry USSR, is centered in Glavlesosbyt (Main Administration of Timber Sales) of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR. Planning the hauling of the rest of the timber is done by the timber-supplying ministries, which receive separate carleading norms from Gossnab USSR (State Committee for the Material and Technical Supply to the National Economy, Council of Ministers USSR).

In conformance with the carloading norms prepared by Gossnab USSR for each quarter for the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR and the timber-supplying ministries, all ministries and departments present to Gossnab USSR a timber-hauling plan for each type of material according to railroad system of origin and railroad system of designation.

Then for each type, Gossnab USSR prepares an over-all plan of hauling according to railroad system of origin and railroad system of destination. Obvioully inefficient hauls, permitted various shippers, are excluded from the plan and, when necessary, are limited to exchanges of timber between self-supplier ministries to prevent inefficient hauling of timber via the railroads.

This over-all plan is referred to the Ministry of Transportation for execution. The Ministry of Transportation transmits to the administrations of the railroad systems the timber carloading norms for each ministry according to railroad system of origin and railroad system of destination.

In turn, the self-supplier ministries submit timber carloading morms to their local organizations, which present to the railroad administrations detailed plans of hauling according to stations and systems of origin and stations and systems of dest mation.

A separate plan of hauling for mine timber and other special types of lumber is compiled in the Main Administration of Timber Sales of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR.

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All ministry-consumers which are provided with timber according to a supply plan present to the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR orders with designated points of consumption of this or that kind of timber. The Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR, knowing the distribution of timber resources according to trusts, assigns the separate trusts to consumers. A detailed plan of hauling according to station and system of origin and destination is presented to the administrations of the railroad systems by the timber trusts.

In the areas of heavy timber loading, where there are several trusts, the plan of hauling for each railroad is prepared by the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR.

The centralization of planning timber hauling and the wide use of timber interchange operations between enterprises of the various ministries and departments are unfailing means of pre-enting inefficient hauling of timber via the railroads.

#### Standard Freight Flow Pattern for Timber

The standard freight flow pattern for timber on the railroads, separated into basic types, permits the subordination of the planning of timber hauling to a definite order and prevents the inefficient hauling of timber via the railroads.

The first standard freight flow pattern for timber was developed by the NKPS (People's Commissariat of Transportation) and Narkomles (People's Commissariat of Timber Industry) in 1935 - 1937. In 1941, after the organization of the Main Administration of Timber Sales and, subsequently, Glavsnables (Main Administration for the Supply of Timber to the National Economy, Council of Ministers USSR), the planning of wood and timber hauling was accomplished by a centralized order.

In spite of a number of measures to decrease the length of haul and the number of partially loaded hauls, the railroads have permitted excessive long hauling and counterhauling of timber. In 1944, 2,600 carloads of timber were hauled from Siberia to the Urals, a distance of 2,500 kilometers. In European USSR, 3,100 carloads were hauled a distance of more than 4,000 kilometers. Also, timber from the Siberian railroads was sent to the Kuybyshev System and the Central Asian railroads and from the Kazan' System to the Odessa, Stalin, and Southern Systems. Together with the excessive long hauling and counterhauling via the railroads, scattered loading of timber was permitted, hindering the long-distance through hauling of timber and excessively clogging the rail centers. River transportation has not been sufficiently used for transporting timber, particularly by industrial enterprises located along the rloating rivers.

In 1945, the government introduced the following limitations on hading timber via rail:

- 1. Prohibited the hauling of timber from the railroads of the Urals, i. e., the Perm' System (east of Yar), the Sverdlovsk System, the South Ural System, beyond the South Ural System, the Orenburg System, the Omik System, and the Karaganda System, except for plywood, ties, and timber necessary for agricultural machine building and motor vehicle and railroad car building.
- 2. Prohibited the hauling of timber, excluding cedar and larch, from the Siberian railroads, i. e., the Tomsk System, the Krasnoyarsk System, and the East Siberia System west of the station of Omsk.



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In 1945, the government boosted timber procurement in Kemerovo, Novosibirsk, and Tomsk oblasts in order to stop the hauling of pit props to the Kuznetsk Basin from the Krasnoyarsk System.

In order to relieve the railroads of carrying timber, increased timber procurement was provided for in the Kama and Unzha river basins, the Karelia area, Arkhangelisk, Leningrad, Kirov, and Vologda oblasts, Belorussia, Western Ukraine, Morthern Caucasus, and the Urai regions. The creation of a timber transshipping base at Astrakhan' made it possible to cill timber, procured in the Kama River Basin, by river transportation to Astrakhan', where it is transshipped and then sent by rail or maritime transport to the Caucasus railroads. By 1950, the hauling of timber and timber floating along the Kama River should sharply increase and amount to 14.4 million cubic meters. This timber goes mainly to consumers in the Ural and Volga areas. In 1950, the transit floating of timber in a southerly direction along the Kama River should amount to about 9 million cubic meters of assorted commercial types of timber.

To make the freight flow of timber more efficient, the Ukraine, Belorussia.the Karelo-Finnish and Baltic republics, and the Arkhangel'sk and Vologda areas have been directed to supply pit props to the Donets Basin.

In 1946, the Ministry of Transportation, jointly with Glavsnables, approved a list of permissible freight-flow routes for hauling pit-prop timber, round construction timber, saw logs, timber supports, and general lumber. This list is given in the appended table or permissible flow routes.

This plan, now in operation, must be considered temporary and subject to amendment because of the changing distribution of the timber-procurement operations.

In 1948, the Council of Ministers USSR, by decree, adopted resolutions aimed at the abolition of counterhauling of timber and the more complete satisfaction of the requirements of enterprises located in interior points. By the same decree it adopted resolutions prohibiting, beginning with 1949, 'he hauling of timber (excluding pit props, high-quality coniferous wood, tarch, oak, basswood, plywood, matchstick wood, and shipbuilding timber) from forests of the second group, located in Vladimir, Voronezh, Kalinin, Kuybyshev, Novosibirsk, Ryazan', Tambov, and Pskov oblasts, and also in the Ukrainian SSR.

Any necessary changes are to be introduced to conform to the changes in the location of the timber stocks in the hauling of timber in 1949 - 1950.

With a view toward future efficient timber hauling, the Council of Ministers USSR decreed a decrease in the hauling of commercial timber via railroads to West Siberia from the Urals and to the Urals from the central areas, starting 1 July 1949, and an increase in the hauling of commercial timber in West Siberia and the Urals. Starting with the second quarter of 1949, in connection with the growth of timber procurement in Primorskiy Krey, the hauling of timber to Primorskiy Krey on the Amur and Far East systems is to be prohibited. Simultaneously with the beginning of the 1949 navigation period, hauling timber via railroad to the following towns located on water routes is prohibited: Astrakhan', Kotlas, Onega, Tyumen', Omsk, Svododnyy, Volegda, Kineshma, Ul'yanovsk, Kostroma, Gor'kiy, Stalingrad, Arkhangel'sk, Biysk, Krasnovodsk, and Kazan'. These cities should be completely supplied with timber by rafting.

#### Improving Timber Hauling

The fundamental task in improving timber hauling via railroads is to improve the distribution or timber-procurement areas in relation to the consumption of timber in the USSR and to facilitate the freight flow of timber via rail on this basis.



In distributing the timber-procuring areas, it is necessary that rail-road hauling of timber between areas be effected along the shortest routes, chiefly from the north to the south, and to reduce to an indispensable minimum the long-distance hauling of timber.

To improve timber hauling by the rail mads, the supplying of timber will be carried out as follows:

- 1. European USSR is to be provided with timber through a maximum increase of timber procurement in the areas of the European North, the Karelo-Finnish SSR, and the Kama and Vyatka rivers. Increasing timber procurement in the European North presupposes the utilization of the forests of the Mezen', Vychegda, Pechora, Northern Dvina, and Onega rivers. Increasing timber procurement in the Kama River Basin permits the fulfillment or timber requirements of the Ural and Volga regions and an increase of through rafting of timber to Astrakhan' to satisfy the demands for timber in the Caucasus, the Donets Basin, and Central Asia.
- 2. Central Asian areas should satisfy their timber requirements from the resources of West Siberia and Krasnoyarsk Kray.
  - 3. The Karaganda Coal Basin should be supplied with Siberian timber.
- 4. The Kuznetsk Coal Basin should be supplied with timber from the Ob'-Irtysh Basin and West Siberia.
- 5. Timber requirements of Primorskiy Kray should be met from local resources, which will necessitate increased procurement of local timber.

Together "Ith the development of timber procurement and the increased proportion of river transportation in the hauling of timber, improvements in location of timber-processing industries, particularly sawmills, are very important in making timber hauling via railroads more efficient. This should be attained through the increased construction of timber-processing enterprises in the procurement areas, and also at river and rail transportation junction points. It is expedient to saw round timber at the procurement area and to limit the hauling of saw logs over distances greater than 300 kilometers.

Replacing the hauling of commercial timber with the hauling of finished products and semifinished products would relieve the railroads. The efficient location of sawmills is an important factor in reducing the volume of timber hauling via railroads.

The natural and artificial seasoning of raw timber and the peeling of timber has great importance in relieving the railroads of inefficient timber hauling. It is necessary to keep in mind that in green timber, water accounts for 40 percent of the total weight. This complicates its transportation over long distances. Drying the timber and hauling it in sawed form reduces the requirements for rolling stock, as is shown in the following table:

Type of Timber	Amt of Timber (1,000 cm m)	Carload (tons)	No of Cars Required
Round timber Round timber converted	1,000	20	50,000
to green lumber Timber converted to	300	25	12,000
dried lumber	300	30	10,000

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A big factor in reducing inefficient hauling is the development of lumber interchange operations between the various timber producers.

# Table of Permissible Flow Routes

Listed below are the permissible flow routes for pit-propping timber, round construction timber, saw logs, support timber, and general lumber, according to railroad system of origin and destination, as of 1 September 1946. This list was approved by the Minister of Transportation and Chief of Glavenables in order No 56578524 of 14 August 1946.

Numbers in parentheses and asterisks refer to notes in the "Remarks" scolumn of the table.

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Railroad Systems of Destination Round Comstruction Timber, Saw Logs, Support Timber ٠. Originating Railroad General Lumber System Round Timber Remarks October North Donets South Ponets Kirov October Kalinin October Lumber from Onega station considered originating on Horthern System (1) Not beyond Bry-ansk Kalinin Moscow Inner Belt Line Moscow Inner
Belt Line
Moscow-Kiev (1) October Kalinin Kalinin Moscow Enner Belt Line Moscow-Kiev Kalinin Moscow Inner Belt Line (2) Not beyond Bry-ansk Moscow Inner Belt Line Moscow-Kursk Moscow-Kiev (2) South Donets Moscow-Donbass Moscow-Kursk Kalinin October (3) Western Moscow-Kiev (4) Yaroslavl' (5) Moscow Inner Belt Line \*Only small pit
props 10cm thick
and finished supports up to 1.8m
long
(3) Only from Bezhetsk-Bologoye,
Staraya-RussaBologoye Western Moscow-Donbass Moscow-Kursk Moscow Inner Belt Line Yaroslavl' (5) October (3) **STAT** Bologoye, and Kresttsy-Valday Sectors Adjoins page 9 here.7

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(4) Not beyond Bryansk (5) Only from Udomlya-Bezhevsk Sector Estonian (6) Only on Bigosovo-Smolensk and Stolbtsy-Smo-lensk Sectors and adjoining sections October Western (6) North Donets North Donets October Western (6) Southern North Donets North Donets South Donets South Donets Stalin South Donets Stalin North Caucasus North Caucasus Ordzhonikidze Azerbaydzhan Ordzhonik úze Transcaucasus Azerbaydzhan Transcaucasus North Donets Western (7) South Donets North Donets Stalin Western (7) (7) Only to Minsk South Donets Southern North Donets South Donets Stalin North Caucasus Ordzhonikidze North Caucasus Ordzhonikidze Azerbaydzhan Transcaucasus Azerbaydzhan Moscow-Kursk (8) North Donets Western Belorussian Southern (8) Only from Moscow-Mozhaysk Sector (8a) From Muscow-Mozhaysk Sector Belorussian Southern **STAT** North Caucasus North Caucasus Moscow Inner Stalin Moscow Inner Belt Line (8a) Belt Line (8a) for Dvortsa Sovetov Belorussian Southern Southern Moscow-Kiev (9) (9) Only on Bryansk-Kezhin Sector North Donets North Donets Southern Adjoins page 10 here.

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Kishinev	Odessa South Donets Stalin	Odessa Stalin	Odessa Stalin
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(10) Only from Baranovichi-Stolbtsy Sector to Minsk

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Stalingrad

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	South Donets Moscow-Donhass	Moscov-Kursk		•		
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Ordzhonikidze	Azerbaydzhan Transcaucasus	Azerbaylzhan Transcaucasus	Azerbaydzhan Transcaucasus			
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Ashkhabad (19) North Caucasus Ordshonikidse Azerbaydzhan Transcaucasus

Tashkent Ashkhabad

Turkestan-Siberia

North Caucasus (20) South Ural

Moscow Inner Belt Line (20) Kuybyshev (20) Ryazan'-Ural(20) Sverdlovsk (21)

South Ural

Moscow Inner
Belt Line (20)
Ryazan'-Ural (20)
Kuybyshev (20)
Sverdlovsk (21)
Horth Caucasus (20)

(20) Only from Fosforitnaya-Yar-Kirov Sector (21) Only on the Shalya-Sverd-lovsk Sector

Sverdlovsk

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Orenburg South Ural Karaganda

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Krasnoyarsk

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Omak (23) Turkestan-Siberia

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Tashkent Ashkhabad Tousk Tashkent Ashkhabad Tousk

East Siberia

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Turkestan-Siberia Tashkent Ashkhabad Cmak (23) Tomsk Krasnoyarak Transbaykal

Turkestan-Siberia Tashkent Ashkhabad Omsk (23) Tomsk Krasnoyarsk Transbaykal

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Par East Primorskiy

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NOTE: Freight flow routes for intrasystem hauling are made up by the chiefs of the respective systems. Not included in the above list are special hauls of timber permitted by the government. These hauls are carried out on special orders of the Ministry of Transportation and Glavlesosbyt of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR.

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